(b) The automobile tyres and tubes industry has been delicensed so as to encourage creation of additional capacity in order to allow market forces to have free play. There is no statutory control on prices of tyres. However, Government have placed specified categories of truck and bus tyres under O.G.L. at a reduced rate of duty for import by bulk consumers in order to keep a check on prices of tyres. In addition, Government have liberally allowed fresh capacity for the manufacture of tyres through various policy measures. Government have also ensured maximisation of tyre production through continuous monitoring and regular interaction with the tyre industry. his has led to a substantial increase in production of bus and truck tyres in 1988 viz. 48.7 lakhs as compared to 39.4 lakhs in 1987.

(c) No proposal for the expansion of capacity of Vikrant Tyres Ltd., a joint sector unit or to open more tyre manufacturing units in the public sector is ending with the Government.

Acceptance of Kelkar Committee Recommendations

*100. SHRI P.N. SUKUL
DR. (SHRIMATI) SAROJINI MAHISHI:

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) what are the details of recommendations of the Kelkar Committee in the main report and supplementary report which are yet to be accepted by Government ;

(b) what are the reasons for the delay in accepting these recommendations; and

(c) by when these recommendations are likely to be accepted.

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO): (a) Decisions on all the major recommendations contained in the main report and supplementary report of the Kelkar Committee have already been taken.

(b) and (c): Do not arise.

Construction of shore supply base near Kakinada Port

527. SHRI PARVATHANENI UPENDRA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Oil and Natural Gas Commission has agreed to construct a shore supply base near Kakinada port; and

(b) if so, by when the construction of the base is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTERY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHM DUTT): (a) and (b): As and when Kakinada Port is developed, ONGC will consider establishing shore-based storage facilities there.

Appointment of Chairman, D.V.C.

528. SHRI MOHAMMED AMIN:
SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA:

Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Government have consulted the West Bengal and Bihar Governments in the matter of appointment of Chairman, D.V.C. which is lying vacant since long; and

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard and by when a decision is likly to be taken in the matter?